

**From:** Governor Cooper's Press Office [govpress@nc.gov]  
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**Subject:** Weekly Newsletter: September 22, 2017



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

OFFICE OF GOVERNOR ROY COOPER

## Highlights of the Week

## Helping Communities Recover from Hurricane Matthew



On Thursday, Gov. Cooper traveled to Fair Bluff to thank students and staff of Columbus Career and College Academy (CCCA) for their volunteerism during and after Hurricane Matthew. Amid the devastation from Matthew, CCCA acted as a Red Cross emergency shelter, taking in neighbors affected by the hurricane. The governor also visited residents at a housing complex that recently reopened after being severely damaged in Hurricane Matthew.

"Help can't come quick enough for those who have been left homeless from a hurricane," Cooper said. "The recovery process is long and we still have a lot more work to do. We need to get people back into their former homes or into new, safer homes."

**[Read more about the governor's hurricane recovery visit here.](#)**

**6 Million Meals for Meals on Wheels**



On Wednesday, Gov. Cooper and First Lady Kristin Cooper delivered the 6 millionth meal with the Meals on Wheels program in Winston-Salem. The governor and first lady met with Rosalie Young, a Meals on Wheels recipient, and talked with her about the importance of the program to seniors across North Carolina. Gov. Cooper also recognized the hard work of the many volunteers who fight hunger statewide.

"These volunteers knock on people's doors and they visit them and deliver nutrition," Gov. Cooper said. "But they offer kindness and friendship and companionship and deliver a message on behalf of this community that we care about you."

**[Read more about Gov. Cooper's Meals on Wheels visit here.](#)**

**Protecting Our Drinking Water**





On Thursday, Gov. Cooper vetoed House Bill 56, arguing that the legislation only symbolically addresses unregulated, emerging contaminants in North Carolina's drinking water. HB 56 does not provide resources to state agencies whose mission is to protect drinking water from illegal chemicals. The bill also unduly rolls back environmental protections regarding landfills, river basins and beaches.

"This cynical legislation fails to address the concerns of families in the Cape Fear region and does nothing to protect drinking water statewide going forward," said Gov. Cooper.

**[Read Gov. Cooper's full statement here.](#)**

**NC Joins U.S. Climate Alliance**



This week, Gov. Cooper announced that North Carolina will join the U.S. Climate Alliance, a bipartisan coalition currently made of 15 states that are committed to reducing their share of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions.

"Clean air and a healthy environment are vital for a strong economy and a healthier future," Gov. Cooper said. "So much of North Carolina's economy relies on protecting our treasured natural resources, and I'm committed to maintaining the quality of their air we breathe for generations to come."

This is just the latest action taken by the Cooper Administration to help combat climate change. Gov. Cooper recently signed into law House Bill 589, Competitive Energy Solutions for North Carolina, which will roughly double North Carolina's solar generation over the next four years.

**[Learn more about North Carolina's role in the U.S. Climate Alliance here.](#)**

**Wishing Livingstone College Students Well at Fall Convocation**





On Friday, Gov. Cooper traveled to Salisbury to deliver a fall convocation address to students and faculty at Livingstone College, a historically black college. During his remarks, the governor encouraged students set intentions for the upcoming schoolyear and the years to follow.

"Living with purpose means something different for every person," Gov. Cooper said. "I'd like to share with you what living a life of purpose means to me, and then I'd like to challenge you to think about what it means to you."

**Photo of the Week**

# WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL

September 25, 2017 \$1.00 THURSDAY www.wsj.com



◀ Festival puts the diversity of Hispanic cultures on display / reish

Dewey's introducing line of six cookies for wholesale market / A4

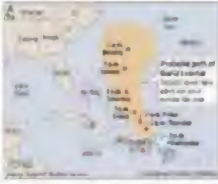
## Maria destroys homes, triggers flooding

Category 4 hurricane knocks out power all across Puerto Rico

BY JAMES K. HAMILTON  
Staff Writer

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — The magnitude 8.9 earthquake on the Caribbean island of Puerto Rico on Sept. 19, 2017, triggered a series of powerful hurricanes that have killed more than 100 people and destroyed more than 100,000 homes, according to the U.S. National Hurricane Center.

Category 4 Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico on Sept. 20, 2017, with winds of 155 mph. It was the strongest hurricane to hit the island since 1932. Maria destroyed more than 100,000 homes and killed more than 100 people. It was the deadliest hurricane to hit Puerto Rico since 1917.



Local family awaits word on Maria's damage to home

BY JAMES K. HAMILTON  
Staff Writer

PRINCETON, N.J. — A family in Princeton, N.J., is waiting for word on the damage to their home in Puerto Rico. The family, which has lived in the home for more than 50 years, is hoping to return to the island soon. The home was destroyed by Hurricane Maria, which hit the island on Sept. 20, 2017.

## Quake relief push begins

Local groups plan to send water, food and other vital aid

BY JAMES K. HAMILTON  
Staff Writer

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — Local groups are planning to send water, food and other vital aid to Puerto Rico in the wake of the Sept. 19 earthquake.

A coalition of local groups, including the Winston-Salem Food Bank and the Winston-Salem Community Center, are planning to send aid to Puerto Rico. The aid will include water, food, and other essential supplies.

The aid will be sent to Puerto Rico in the next few days. The groups are hoping to help the people of Puerto Rico in the wake of the earthquake.

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## 6 million meals



Gov. Roy Cooper (right) and his wife, Beth, with Sen. Kevin Cooper (left), deliver the official 6 million-meals milestone to the program.

## Cooper honors Senior Services' Meals on Wheels as program hits milestone

BY JAMES K. HAMILTON  
Staff Writer

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — Gov. Roy Cooper and his wife, Beth, joined Sen. Kevin Cooper to honor the 6 million-meals milestone of the Senior Services' Meals on Wheels program. The program has been serving meals to seniors in Winston-Salem for more than 50 years.

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## Killers: Corbett at fault in death

Irish brother-in-law's wife, father-in-law respond to wrongful-death lawsuit

BY JAMES K. HAMILTON  
Staff Writer

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — A wrongful-death lawsuit has been filed against the state of North Carolina, claiming that the state was responsible for the death of a man. The lawsuit was filed by the brother-in-law of the man who died.

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Tweet of the Week



**Governor Roy Cooper**  @NC\_Governor · Sep 19  
Gov. Cooper on [#GrahamCassidy](#) Health Care Legislation:



OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
**ROY COOPER**

The latest proposal to repeal the Affordable Care Act may be even worse than previous proposals: raising premiums, weakening protections for people with pre-existing conditions, and slashing over \$1 billion from North Carolina's Medicaid program. North Carolina's middle-class families will be worse off if this passes.

Senate Republicans in Washington must work with Democrats to reach a bipartisan solution that expands health care coverage and makes it better.

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